

support of LWCF. I am in full support of NAWCA. I do believe that we ought to reauthorize those pieces of legislation, and I do believe that there are mechanisms to do that. I believe that the vast majority of folks on our Committee on Natural Resources, as well as in Congress, want to see those things happening.

The difficulty always is in taking one bill and adding a bunch of different elements to it. I think those bills are important enough that they deserve their own level of debate and own level of attention about what we do in reauthorizing those bills.

I think folks outside the 90 square miles of Washington look at us and say, you know, why are you putting all these other elements into a bill rather than debating them individually?

I think we can put too much into a piece of legislation where it becomes confusing and it doesn't get after the true purpose behind the original bill. We tried to put together pieces that were similar in scope but didn't include other areas that really deserve their own level of debate.

So that is the reason that LWCF and NAWCA was left out of this, not by any intention to say we shouldn't address those, but by understanding that we have a responsibility to try to keep these packages of bills as simple and straightforward as we can.

Also, when we talk about lead, remember that the lead we talk about is in things like fishing sinkers. Remember, fishing sinkers are used in water. The gentlewoman from California talked about the issue with California condors. Well, California condors are not an aquatic bird, so I don't think we have to worry about them swimming in water and getting hold of these fishing sinkers.

The same way with bullets. I understand there are a few instances where they might have found a bullet associated with ingestion with a California condor, but the vast majority of shooting sports are put forth in legal ranges where the lead ends up in the ground. It ends up in the ground at a shooting range. Remember, that is the exact area where the lead came from. So returning it to the ground where we know eventually through the years it does indeed decay, it does indeed break down, those things are legal and I think environmentally responsible ways that lead is used in both hunting and fishing. Let's not stop those efforts. I want to make sure that those things happen.

If there are specific issues related to the California condor, I think we ought to address that, but these carte blanche one-size-fits-all efforts to say let's ban lead across the spectrum in the shooting sports, for hunting, and for fishing doesn't get at those root issues and it creates unnecessary burdens on folks who are using those in a legal way and in a way that doesn't affect our fish and wildlife populations. So I want to make sure that those things continue.

I do believe that there are many more areas of agreement than disagreement on this bill. I think that we have talked to folks on many aspects of this. It is different in its scope with the Senate bill, and I look forward to its successful passage out of this House and for our ability to bring it to a conference committee in the Senate and to work through those particular differences between the House and the Senate bill.

Mr. Chairman, I would urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 2406, the SHARE Act.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chair, I support H.R. 2406, the Sportsmen's Heritage and Recreational Enhancement Act or SHARE Act.

Recreational hunting and fishing are some of the oldest traditions in America. I went on my first hunting trip in the early 70's and have loved gaming ever since. The sport was a great way to bond with my father-in-law and a great tradition to pass on to my own son.

I am not alone in enjoying this great tradition. Sportsmen and women contribute billions of dollars to the U.S. economy, support thousands of jobs and enrich our culture. Texas is home to 2,713,000 hunters and anglers, making it the second biggest state for sportsmen and women in the nation.

H.R. 2406, the SHARE Act, is supported by more than 50 of the nation's leading conservation groups and includes provisions that will expand access for hunters and anglers and protect the environment through conservation efforts.

The SHARE Act will protect access to BLM and U.S. Forest Service land for hunting and fishing, reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act and allows fish and wildlife agencies added flexibility to construct public shooting ranges.

Ensuring future generations of Americans have access to these great traditions must be our priority going forward.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 2406, the SHARE Act. This legislation would protect 2nd Amendment rights and prevent unnecessary federal regulations from limiting access to outdoor sporting activities.

Activities like hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting contribute billions of dollars to our economy. But, it's impossible to put a dollar value on what they mean to millions of American families.

For many Texans—myself included—hunting and fishing are more than simple hobbies. They are family traditions that get passed down through generations. These traditions bring us together and teach invaluable lessons about gun safety and environmental responsibility.

Passing the SHARE Act will protect 2nd Amendment rights and help ensure that our sporting traditions can continue for generations to come.

I call on all my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

The Acting CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise. The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr.

HILL) having assumed the chair, Mr. WALKER, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2406) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

HONORING THE FALLEN SOLDIERS OF THE 14TH QUARTERMASTER DETACHMENT DURING OPERATION DESERT STORM

(Mr. ROTHFUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of the soldiers of the 14th Quartermaster Detachment of the United States Army Reserve who were killed or wounded in their barracks by an Iraqi Scud missile attack in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm in 1991 on this date.

The soldiers of the Pennsylvania Army Reserve served with bravery and honor in Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, and they will forever make western Pennsylvania proud.

Sixty-nine soldiers of the 14th Quartermaster Detachment stationed in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, were deployed to Saudi Arabia during this campaign. These brave men and women were supporting operations to liberate the people of Kuwait. Even though 13 of these soldiers gave their lives 25 years ago today—another 43 were wounded—the impact of their sacrifice and their loss has not faded and will not be forgotten.

We owe these soldiers and their families a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid, and we sympathize with the pain endured by those they left behind. May God bless them.

HONORING WADE HENDERSON

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, we are nearing the end of Black History Month. We had a special program yesterday recognizing foot soldiers of the civil rights movement. It reminded me of a man who is a foot soldier up here in Washington, Wade Henderson.

Wade Henderson is the president and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and the Leadership Conference Education Fund. He announced he is going to be retiring after 20 years as the head of that organization at the end of this year.

Wade Henderson has worked with Republicans and Democrats both to bring about change in our country. He was largely responsible for work on the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act